

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-49 are presently pending in this application, Claims 11-13, 23 and 45 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to because of informality; the specification was objected to for informalities; the abstract of the disclosure was objected to for informality; Claims 12, 13, 23 and 45 were objected to for informalities; and Claims 12-49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. However, Claim 11 was indicated as allowed and Claims 12-49 were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

First, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indications that Claim 11 has been allowed and that Claims 12-49 include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Claims 12, 13, 23 and 45 have been amended for formalities, and additionally, Claim 11 has been amended simply for clarity. Thus, none of the amendments presented above is believed to alter the scopes of the original claims in any ways.

In response to the objection to the drawings, submitted herewith is a separate LETTER SUBMITTING REPLACEMENT DRAWING SHEET(S), submitting for approval changes to Figure 6. Specifically, Figure 6 has been amended to add the legend "Prior Art." Furthermore, in response to the objections related to the specification, the noted informalities have been corrected herein.

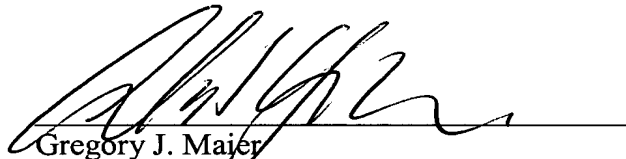
If, however, the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing amendments, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to derive mutually agreeable solution and expedite the prosecution of this application.

Finally, Applicants submit copies of the foreign patent documents and other references provided in the parent patent application, Serial No. 09/720,806, filed January 3, 2001, and thus respectfully request that the Information Disclosure Statements filed December 5, 2003, be duly considered and acknowledged.

In light of the prior indication of the allowable subject matters and in view of the amendments presented above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and thus the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawing includes change to Figure 6. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Figure 6 and the legend "Prior Art" has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1)